SENATE BILL NO. 453

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS BURLISON AND LUETKEMEYER.

1312S.02I ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 537, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a cause of action against a public body for offering certain services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 537, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto

- 2 one new section, to be known as section 537.048, to read as
- 3 follows:

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- 537.048. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Stop Socialism Act".
- 3 2. For purposes of this section, the following terms 4 mean:
 - (1) "Competitive service", a wholesale or retail offering of a service by a person that is substantially similar to a service being offered by the public body;
- 8 (2) "Person", a person, firm, a partner in a firm, 9 corporation or a shareholder in an S corporation doing
- 10 business in the state of Missouri and subject to the state
- 11 income tax imposed by the provisions of chapter 143,
- 12 including any charitable organization which is exempt from
- 13 federal income tax and whose Missouri unrelated business
- 14 taxable income, if any, would be subject to the state income
- 15 tax imposed under chapter 143, or an insurance company
- 16 paying an annual tax on its gross premium receipts in this
- 17 state, or other financial institution paying taxes to the
- 18 state of Missouri or any political subdivision of this state

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- 19 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 148, or an express
- 20 company which pays an annual tax on its gross receipts in
- 21 this state pursuant to chapter 153, or an individual subject
- 22 to the state income tax imposed by the provisions of chapter
- 23 143;
- 24 (3) "Public body", the state or any of its agencies,
- 25 any county, city, town, village, or other political
- 26 subdivision.
- 27 3. Any person shall have a cause of action against a
- 28 public body if the public body provides, or offers to
- 29 provide, a competitive service that is also provided by the
- 30 person within the jurisdiction of the public body. The
- 31 provisions of this subsection shall not apply if the person
- 32 bringing the cause of action provided the competitive
- 33 service after the public body began providing such service
- 34 or if the public body demonstrates that there is an
- 35 overriding or compelling public interest served by the
- 36 competitive service. An overriding or compelling public
- 37 interest in a competitive service includes, but shall not be
- 38 limited to, services provided by the criminal justice system
- 39 and activities and services of various kinds provided by
- 40 educational institutions.
- 4. Upon a judgment rendered against a public body
- 42 offering a competitive service in a cause of action brought
- 43 pursuant to the provisions of section 537.048, the person
- 44 may apply for credit or refund to the director of revenue
- 45 and the director shall give credit or make refund for taxes
- 46 paid to the public body on the sale of any competitive
- 47 service made by the person.
- 48 5. In addition to the exemptions granted pursuant to
- 49 the provisions of section 144.030, there is also hereby
- 50 specifically exempted from the provisions of and from the

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computation of the tax levied, assessed, or payable pursuant 51 52 to the local sales tax law, as defined in section 32.085, and from the provisions of and from the computation of the 53 tax levied, assessed, or payable pursuant to chapter 144, 54 the sale of any competitive service made by a person who has 55 56 received a judgment rendered against a public body offering a competitive service in a cause of action brought pursuant 57 to the provisions of section 537.048. 58

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